



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Huntington District

Castle Comments

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July 2002

Archeological survey to reveal original state

Corps to take home back in time

By ELIZABETH SLAGEL
Public Affairs

How to restore the Jenkins house is the million dollar question and could cost more than that depending on the agreed plan to turn the 19th century plantation into a model of what it once was.

The Corps of Engineers continues to work with state and local interests on a plan for preserving the pre-Civil War home under legislation passed through the Water Resources and Development Act of 2000 sponsored by Rep. Nick Rahall D-W.Va.

With federal money to restore the 170-year-old home, the big question is, restore it to what period? Corps Archeologist Dr. Bob Maslowski said local historians interested in the project say it should be restored to the pre-Civil War date of 1850. "These plantations were continually going

through restructure so it is hard to tell what the structures were." The original state would include slave quarters, barns, outhouses and possibly an office.

The house, a two story brick Georgian Federalist style built in 1835, only reveals a glimpse of the original homestead of Confederate Gen. Albert Jenkins. Any amateur eye can easily spot the modernizations; painted over brick, addition to home, electric and running water.

But for historians and preservationists interested in making the home a historical attraction, much more is involved. That is where the Corps contractor, Cultural Resources Analysts from Hurricane, W.Va. comes in, the contractor that surveyed the Marmet expansion site.

The contractor is trying to determine what exactly the plantation was like in its heyday.

Sophisticated equipment and the trained eye can locate spots where structures once stood. Maslowski said there are other signs to follow. The contractor examined the area and noticed some brown grass in square shapes. This simple clue can indicate a stone foundation below the earth.

From there Maslowski and the contractor mapped out a plan for the



Photo by Wayne Budrus

Two employees for Cultural Resources Analysts carefully sift through surrounding soil. They are looking for pieces of glass, pottery or clues as to the age of the structures found below.

See house restoration page 12

Inside this Issue

- ID badges are mandatory, but employees are finding all kinds of ways to make them a colorful part of their apparel. Page 5 features creative Corps badges.



- Sutton Lake campers are taking home more than the usual case of poison ivy or mosquito bites these days. A new pest poses a much bigger problem if not controlled. Page 6 features a proactive approach to slowing the spread of the destructive Gypsy Moth.

- A ranger recalls a chance meeting with a man on the brink of a violent attack. See article page 8.



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Smiles out to:



• Linda Chafin, Linda Hazelett, Bonnie Jennings, Angie Riffe, Dan Bailey, Glenn Singleton, Marty Spurlock, Chuck Minsker and Steve Wright for participating in the Energy Express Program's Read-to-Me at Peyton Elementary July 11.



• John Rehme, Brian Porter, Frank Albert and Sean Smith for speaking to a Cabell-Midland high school student July 15 about engineering careers.



• PM-PD hosting a shadowing student from the Upward Bound program at Marshall University July 16.



• Arlie Bishop, John Cline, Ken Bumgardner, Geneva Lares, Tracy Baker, LuAnne Conley, Ron Ray and Ben Borda for participating in the Teacher Summer Institute July 17 and July 18.

Commander's Corner



Influx of retirements create upward mobility opportunities

By COL JOHN RIVENBURGH
District Engineer

Our district is going through a period of change. Some of our more senior team members are retiring along with their baby boomer peers everywhere. We don't want them to leave because they are the reason we are the great district we are today. We will truly miss their expertise, institutional knowledge, professionalism and friendship.

All is not lost, however. Look around you and you will see smart, articulate, dedicated professionals ready to step into the voids created by retirements. Others have been cutting their teeth in other districts and commands. Their hair may not be gray, they may be a little short in the tooth; but they know their jobs and I believe they are ready to move up and take charge. Recent experience tells me all are not quite as ready as they could be, though.

There are several hurdles to overcome before one can successfully advance in Huntington District or any other organization. The competition is tough and **you** must do everything you can to give yourself an edge. Resumes must be complete and accurately address each of the Knowledge, Skills and Abilities. Don't trust the CPOC or anyone else – make sure your current resume is in the system. Have a fellow employee or a supervisor proofread your resume to make sure it is error free. Not all of us have the chance to speak publicly every day. If you haven't interviewed lately, practice with friends or family. Join ITC – they provide a wonderful venue for honing your verbal and listening skills.

Never stop learning. Broaden your experiences. Take on the challenge of developmental assignments, even if it means traveling away from home for 90-120 days. Volunteer for teams and take on some of the challenges of our new Strategic Business Plan – we'll all be better for your efforts. Our Chief of Engineers, Lt. Gen. Flowers, challenged us earlier this year to become a Learning Organization. We are well on our way to becoming one, but each and every one of us must reach out and capture all we can from those who are leaving. Don't let that smart person get away without picking their brains and knowing all they have to offer. I also challenge you to share what you know so we are ready to operate without you when you are gone.

The future holds incredible challenges and opportunities for all of us! Look for them, attack them with vigor and our Corps and our Nation will be the benefactors along with you.

Editorial

Know the facts before you retire

By STEVE WRIGHT
Public Affairs

It's incredible; half of the Corps of Engineers workforce is eligible to retire in the next five years. Let's bring this closer to home. Half of the Huntington District workforce is eligible to retire in the next five years.

Look around you in your office or at your project—your co-workers are retiring at a rate of 10 percent each year. Heck, you may look in the mirror tomorrow morning and realize you're ready to make room on the Corps roles for somebody new.

There's good news for everyone in this retirement game. If you are a new employee, you can take heart that in another 30 years, you too can retire, sleep late and play lots of golf or baby sit the grandchildren. If you are a little more seasoned employee as people leave you will have a better opportunity to move ahead in your career. You know, out with the old and in with the new!

Retirement eligible or soon to be eligible employees do have important information to gather and preparations and decisions to make. Too many of us think we know how the system works and don't. I recently took a retirement seminar offered by the district. It was an eye-opening experience for me and many of my classmates.

For years, I had lamented the fact that I was a civil service off-set employee. Off-set employees are those who started under the Civil Service Retirement System prior to 1984, had a break in employment, and then returned to government service. What I learned in

the class is that I will receive \$450 per month more social security at age 62 than I expected.

Another class member who was divorced thought half of his retirement was going to his former spouse because his ex-wife had not signed a waiver to his retirement benefit at the time of the divorce. He learned that a waiver is not needed for him to retain all his retirement benefits and that if the divorce decree does not address the retirement benefits, he retains his entire benefit.

Another class member learned he can combine civil service time with military time without giving up veteran's disability compensation. This fact significantly increased his monthly retirement income and made him immediately eligible for retirement. Previously, he had been told that combining his military and civilian time would result in loss of his disability compensation.

Bottom line: every employee in the retirement seminar learned valuable information. Issues of life insurance, health insurance, use of annual leave,

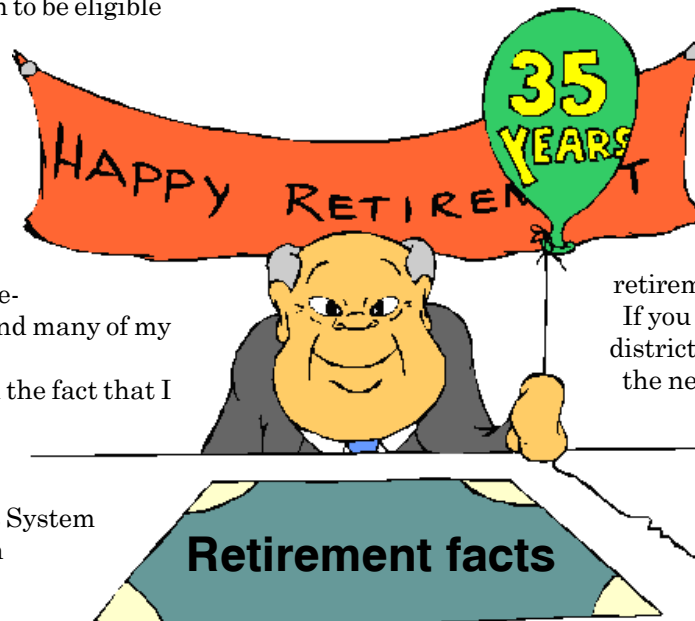
scheduling the retirement date and about a hundred other helpful hints are explained in the pre-retirement seminar.

Unfortunately, since consolidation of the Human Resource function, district employees no longer have the luxury of receiving one-on-one

retirement advice.

If you are among the 50 percent of our district workforce eligible to retire in the next five years, do not miss the

opportunity to benefit from the next pre-retirement seminar offered by the district. Don't gamble on making your retirement decisions without the best possible information available.



Leave retirement money for your golden years

As the economy tightens, many Americans who are losing or changing their jobs are tapping into their nest eggs to fund the transition. And virtually all financial experts say it's a bad idea.

A recent study by Putnam Investments found that 30 percent

of 401 (k) participants took cash instead of rolling their money into an individual retirement account or other tax-deferred savings vehicle when they left a company—regardless of their age. If people continue at that rate, a staggering \$39 billion will be pulled out of 401

(k) plans in a year and will lead to about \$8.3 billion in taxes and penalties on cash distributions from retirement savings plans. That means you can be giving 50 percent of your money to Uncle Sam.

--Adapted from The Newark Star-Ledger

New writer on the block not new at all

Local journalist joins Public Affairs team

By ELIZABETH SLAGEL
Public Affairs

He is Public Affairs newest employee, but a stranger he is not.

Chuck Minsker, a local experienced journalist, officially joined the Public Affairs team in June. The 1978 Marshall graduate has 21 years experience in television at Huntington's WOWK-TV Channel 13 as news photographer and evening news producer. Much of his work

involved public service projects such as the popular Kid's Mag program in the 80s, High Q and other documentaries to include a 30-minute segment on the 1937 flood. While at the station he earned two regional Emmy Awards and a half dozen national awards.

Leaving Channel 13 behind he and colleague and friend, Doug Morris, opened a video production business doing commercials, weddings and educational-type videos for industry and various businesses.

It was through this company, Maverick Media, that Minsker became familiar with the Corps as he was hired to produce Corps videos such as the Bluestone drift and debris and Section 202 house raising videos.

As an aside, he and his sons Justin, 16, and Evan, 14, write a weekly column for the local Herald Dispatch reviewing video games.

But his most familiar print work would come from earlier this year when he temporarily took over editor of Castle Comments in January and February as a contractor. He then took a full-time job



Unknown Photographer

Chuck Minsker shoots a Huntington scene with a 3/4 inch video camera in this 1980 photo while working for the television station.



Photo by Elizabeth Slagel

Chuck Minsker is an award winning broadcast journalist known for his behind the scenes work at WOWK-TV Channel 13. He has more than 20 years experience.

with the State of West Virginia as a public information specialist with the Immunization Program. The Corps lured him back a few months later and now he is a permanent addition.

Chief Public Affairs Steve Wright said, "Chuck is a very talented professional journalist. We are fortunate to have his talent and expertise here at the Corps.

Minsker lives in the Barboursville area with his wife Jeanette of 19 years, two sons and their dog Itchy.

Employees get creative with ID's

Photos and page design by
Chuck Minsker

Everyone who works for the Huntington District must wear and ID, but let's face it, the badge just doesn't work as an addition to our wardrobe and it certainly doesn't qualify as jewelry. However, some employees have taken steps to correct that oversight by adding decorations to spice up their dreary badge. For example:



Frankie Crew has surrounded her badge with seven small pins –most are patriotic, with a couple of West Virginia badges thrown in for good measure. The top right is a breast cancer awareness pin.



Frank Hayes has a practical decoration on his ID. It's a copy of the seven key Army Values (which we all know are Loyalty, Duty, Respect, Selfless Service, Honor, Integrity and Personal Courage).



Mike Wetzel kept his ID clear, but shows his patriotism by wearing a lanyard that's covered with American flags.



Linda Chafin didn't just settle for throwing a few stars on the front of her card, she dedicated the flip side of her badge to Old Glory.



Gypsy moths discovered at Sutton Lake

Westward expansion could see sharp rise as lake campers come home

By ELIZABETH SLAGEL
Public Affairs

Gypsies were known for their roaming tendencies. The gypsy moth, *Lymantria dipar*, is no different as foresters carefully monitor their spread across the eastern United States as they pose a threat to the foliage and life of susceptible trees.

These traveling pests, that naturally spread from tree to tree, are rapidly making their way westward. Last fall they were discovered at Huntington District's Sutton Lake, in what is said to be the furthest westward and southward discovery yet, at least in the state of West Virginia.

What concerns foresters is the potential for spread by campers at Sutton Lake. Ranger Keith Ann Nuckles says a single camper can unknowingly take home an egg mass that landed on their camping

equipment that will hatch 500 caterpillars in the spring. Considering where home is, it may lead to artificial transportation or jumps in the spread across the U.S.

An employee with the West Virginia Department of Agriculture (WVDA) stumbled on the gypsy moth population at Sutton when passing through, Nuckles said. "He saw it and recognized the egg masses. They called us wanting to meet to talk over the issue."

The meeting between the WVDA, the Corps and the U.S. Forest Service led to a prompt plan to slow their growth. This spring the Corps attacked the gypsy moths with a biological agent known as *Bacillus thuringiensis kurstaki*, or BTK. Airplanes suspended the spray at two different times in the infested area, according to Corps Forester Bob Daoust. The bacterium disables the caterpillars ability to ingest, which later leads to death.

"BTK is a bacteria that doesn't have affect on people, pets, or livestock. We had to make sure there was no endangered larva that would be affected."

Ranger Nuckles said both agricultural agencies will further survey the spray's impact on the gypsy moth population over the next two months as well as forest destruction by aerial surveys searching for defoliation.

Sutton Lake employees took the lead on raising public awareness. "We're being proactive about it. We've been giving handouts and

pamphlets to campers and showing them what to look for. You don't have to talk to people long. Most have heard of gypsy moths and know they are bad," Nuckles

said.

Unfortunately, the recent popular camping weekend of July Fourth, just happened to coincide with the time the female moths were laying their eggs, she added. To help prevent the spread, the project also set up a hose and encouraged campers to spray off their camping equipment before they return home. The gypsy moths hatch on their host trees, usually oak or aspen, in the spring and begin eating away at new foliage. High concentrations of gypsy moths can eat so much foliage, that it will kill the tree. They travel by a strand that carries them by wind from tree to tree and on to forest to forest.

U.S. Forest Service Entomologist Brad Onken said Sutton didn't appear to have severe defoliation and chances are there won't be any this year. "Had that population gone undetected, it would have worked out differently," he said.

This Eurasian pest was accidentally introduced by a Frenchman named Etienne Leopold in Medford, Mass. who was researching silk production. Part of the colony escaped and upon his return to France, his neighborhood trees were barren.

It is inevitable to prevent the spread of gypsy moths, the control methods are simply used to slow the spread.



Photo courtesy of U.S. Forest Service

An egg mass like those found at Sutton Lake is attached to a host tree. One egg mass can hatch 500 foliage eating caterpillars.

nt Sutton

ould propagate spread

Spread across Eastern U.S.



Spread in 1934



Spread in 1965



Spread in 1994



Student of the Month

Megan Boggess

*Engineering and Construction Division,
Environmental and Remediation Section*



Photo by Elizabeth Slagel

Name: Megan Boggess

School: Marshall University

Year: Second year graduate school

Field: Geography

Hometown: Sissonville, W.Va.

Started with Corps: Feb. 2002

Nomination: Megan is nominated for her work in the preparation of an environmental assessment for the Department of Housing and Urban Development which had a very short time for completion. Her efforts were outstanding and we provided a quality product for our customer within time and under budget--Dave Meadows.

Ranger recalls frightful experience

Project visitor involved in shoot-out minutes after leaving project office

Editor's Note: The following story occurred at Mohawk Dam last summer.

By JANET LAHM
Ranger Mohawk Dam

I had been half listening to the conversation that was going on in the outer office due to the unusual tone that had developed in Annette's voice.

Annette Segalavich, then the LPA at the project, competently handled routine inquiries and dispensed basic information to people who stop in the office. However, this visitor was different. When she said my name I was out of my seat and on my way into the outer office instantly.

This morning the man standing there was definitely different, the atmosphere tense. Annette explained to me that this gentleman is asking about buying the dam and I can't seem to get him the information he wants.

The man standing in the middle of the office definitely set off my bad vibes meter. A tall, lean, unkempt, fifty something fellow in dirty blue jeans and shirt that matched his pale greasy hair; he and the clothing had been together for a long time. He didn't meet my eyes and barely acknowledged me when I entered the room and greeted him. His glance flickered toward me then back to the window. He had the air of one who is dealing with subordinates and not very bright ones at that. I said a quick prayer for guidance and protection.

It was obvious to us that he was, shall we say, among the strange folk, definitely not the usual fisherman or camper. My every nerve jumped to attention, I wanted him out of here. Annette and I were alone in the office, not at all unusual. The office, nestled up against the abutment of the big rock covered dry dam at the edge of the pinewoods is very isolated. The other two staff members were out on one or the other of the projects we manage. At that moment, I felt that

aloneness in a new way.

In answer to my question, "How can I help you?" he patiently replied... "How much is it?" and stood there expectantly. Annette explained that he wanted to buy the dam and was asking how much it cost. She added that she had explained to him that the dam is a federal flood reduction facility and not for sale but that didn't deter him one bit. He was a man of few words; my bad vibes meter was off the scale. Annette provided him with the latest property inventory figure for the dam, etc. He said he needed a higher authority so I got out my phone book and wrote down numbers for our area realty specialist and the district office.

He had moved to stand beside me, within 3 feet, as I wrote, the hair was standing up on my arms. As he accepted the paper I offered him, our eyes met. In that brief instant the description of cold lifeless eyes crossed my mind--a chilling experience. He turned and walked out. In utter silence I moved slowly to the front door and locked it quietly behind him then went to the back door and did the same. Neither Annette nor I said a word. As he turned his truck around I wrote down his license plate number and description of his vehicle.

Annette and I breathed a sigh of relief. After a brief discussion we decided others should know he had been here in case he came back as he seemed very likely to cause trouble. I called the area office to alert them and called the sheriff. As the dispatch was taking the information from me, I could hear the radio come to life in the background. Tension filled voices blaring out requests for back up, get me back up officer is down, get an ambulance, get the helicopter send another ambulance, etc. She asked me to hold as she responded to the calls. We had a ringside seat in the unfolding drama. Returning to the phone she asked a few pointed questions, ascertained that we were o.k. and then said "Your visitor was involved with a deputy near Warsaw; we'll get back to

you real soon."

Within an hour a sheriff's cruiser arrived and two officers filled us in on the details. The visitor, known as the hermit, lived in a huge cement block house he had built in the woods along the river at the end of a mile long drive near Warsaw. He kept to himself for the most part; spoke to the owner of the local lumber supply store but few others. He was known to be very bright, wealthy and odd.

After he left our office, he had stopped by the local lumber store but the owner was not in, he then went to the grocery store where a woman worked who often came to his house to visit. They exchanged words, which got heated, he grabbed her arms, another customer intervened. He left the store. After that brief contact, he went to his home. The shopper, who had intervened between the two, was concerned about the manner the hermit had used with the woman and called the sheriff.

A deputy arrived, questioned the grocery store people and went to the hermit's house. The deputy left his cruiser in the heavily wooded driveway and began walking down the drive. The hermit stepped out of the woods with a pistol in his hand. Shots were exchanged. The deputy was shot in the right lower chest, his vest minimized the damage. The hermit died at the scene within 45 minutes. The deputy fully recovered.

The new security system in the offices at the dam includes panic buttons as well as silent signals on the touch pads. Plans are underway to install a counter across the main office to limit access into that area as well.

No one will ever know what was in the hermit's mind when he came here, or what set him off after that. I know it is natural to have sympathy for a soul tormented for so many years and the regret that no intervention occurred. I also know it was one of those times I was very grateful for all my training and God given instincts because you never know.

Corps works with state agencies on Piedmont

By KATHY REA
Public Affairs

Under rainy skies May 13, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR), Division of Wildlife, Division of Mineral Resources Management, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and U.S. Department of the Interior Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement dedicated the \$800,000 Lick Run Embayment Reclamation project.

"This is the first Project Cooperation Agreement between the Corps of Engineers and the state of Ohio," said Sam Speck, Director ODNR.

Located in Belmont County, Ohio, the Lick Run Reclamation Project is an acid mine drainage abatement effort designed to remove iron and other pollutants from water flowing from Lick Run into Piedmont Lake.



Photo by Kathy Rea

ODNR Chief of Wildlife Division Mike Budzik, Col. John Rivenburgh, ODNR Assistant Chief of Wildlife Division Steve Gray and District Four Manager Jim Marshall stand together at a partnering meeting.

Ranger warns leave fawns be; they're not lost

By KEVIN WRIGHT
Ranger, Grayson Lake

When people see a cute little fawn alone in the woods they assume that like "Bambi," it has lost its mother. This is rarely the case, fawns are born without scent, and this allows the mother deer to safely leave her fawn in a concealed place.

The state's wildlife biologists have issued their annual reminder to leave young birds and animals alone. This reminder is especially important to white-tailed fawns, which are abundant this time of year. Each year fawns are picked up by people with good intentions, they believe the animal has been abandoned by its mother. However, the mother is often nearby either hiding, or trying to lead pursuers away. Such an incident occurred here at Grayson Lake just last

week. Some children playing at the below dam recreation area encountered a young fawn, maybe two weeks old in a field. The fawn no doubt had been left there by its mother for safe keeping until her return.

To the children the fawn was a cute little animal to play with; however the added stress to a young animal such as this fawn could be fatal. Just like a newborn baby young deer need plenty of rest and nurturing from their

mother. Fortunately the baby deer was reunited with its mother but in many cases there is a more tragic end to the story.

These rescue attempts often end up with a tragic end because the fawn dies from improper handling, feeding, or disease from well-intentioned humans. If it can be confirmed that the fawn is an orphan, such as the case when its mother is killed along the road, then wildlife biologists or a

Conservation Officer should be notified. It is illegal to possess a wild animal in the state of Kentucky without a permit.

So when you are out enjoying nature at Grayson Lake or your favorite patch of woods, remember nature takes care of its own. It has been this way since the beginning of time without interference from man. Please keep it that way.



Ranger finds more detail about project's namesake

By BRIAN MORGAN
Ranger, R.D. Bailey Lake

Who was R.D. Bailey? That was the very question I asked myself whenever I became employed at R.D. Bailey Lake.

I am very adamant about greeting and talking with visitors when they come in the visitor center at R.D. Bailey. I have met a lot of interesting people from all over the world.....yes! World! One evening I was talking to a lady and she asked me "Do you know who R.D. Bailey was?" I could tell by the tone of her voice that she did. I replied that all the information I had seen only told me that he was a lawyer and was the presiding judge at the Matewan, W.Va. coal war trials. I went on to tell her I wanted to know more but my searches had turned up empty. She told me about a book she had just purchased from the Wyoming county clerks office and had read. The title of the book was "Reference Book of Wyoming County History" written back in the 1960s by a Mary Keller Bowman that had expansive information about R.D. Bailey in it. That day I called the Pineville Public Library and asked if they had such a book and that I was particularly interested in knowing about R.D. Bailey.

As I watched the pages roll out of the fax machine, I knew I had hit the jackpot. It had everything in it I had been looking for. I like having the details and this information was very detailed. My next move was to get copyright permission to use the information. I contacted the publisher and they told me that the Wyoming County Commission had obtained the copyright from the heirs of the author. At the time of this article I had obtained verbal permission with the paperwork to follow. Below is a portion of what was written on R.D. Bailey as written by Mary Keller Bowman – his secretary for more than thirty years. Enjoy!

In May 1920, violence erupted in the coalfields of Mingo County. At

Matewan the miners, led by United Mine Workers of America organizers, clashed with the coal operators and Baldwin-Felts detectives employed by them. The armed "battle" began soon after the Baldwin-Felts men stepped off the train and was over in a few minutes with seven men lying on the ground dead.

Prosecutions for murders committed in this affray were to come up for trial at Williamson in January 1921. Early in January 1921, young Judge Robert Darius Bailey set out for Williamson to begin his term as judge and meet his destiny. He was not reluctant to accept the challenge of the important trials to come before him. He had a very strong innate sense of right and wrong and felt that he could adjudicate with fairness and justice the proceedings to be heard by him and the decisions to be made relating thereto. One of his pronouncements concerning the Matewan trial was: "This is going to be a fair trial."

Before his first term of court ended the "Matewan trials" and Judge Bailey

made headlines and daily news in every big daily in the country, and his reputation as a judge and lawyer was firmly established.

Before his term ended, his handling of the case against Clyde Beal, who was tried in Mingo County for murder, again brought him national notice. The jury found Beal guilty of murder in the first degree with no recommendation for mercy, which made a death sentence mandatory. Convinced that Beal was not guilty, Bailey refused to sentence Beal to death and resigned rather than do so. This unprecedented act brought commend not only from the United States newspapers, but also in foreign countries. The Judge's terse comment on this act was, "I would rather be right than Judge." Whereupon, he returned to Wyoming County to resume his law practice.

In 1929, he and F.E Shannon (his cousin) formed a partnership to practice law under the firm name. Bailey continued a life-long devotion to politics and public service.



Photographer unknown

Ranger Brian Morgan stands next to Wyoming County's esteemed judge for whom the R.D. Bailey project is named. The judge got national attention while presiding over the coal war trials in southern West Virginia.

Retirees Corner

By JOHN TURNER
COEHDRA, Publications
Coordinator

COEHDRA Happenings: As I previously mentioned, your Huntington District Retiree Association (COEHDRA) did not and will not be holding its planning meetings during the months of July and August. Our next meeting will be Sept. 9 at 11:30 a.m. at the Ponderosa Steak House located at 3100 Route 60 East in Huntington. All retirees are welcome and encouraged to join in on these meetings. Since the restaurant needs an idea of the approximate number of attendees, you're requested to call Bevo at 304-523-8234 no later than Sept. 7 and advise him of your plans to attend.

HATFIELDS-MCCOYS: Although Marshall University History Professor Paul Lutz provided us an outstanding portrayal of William Anderson "Devil Anse" Hatfield of the famed Hatfield and McCoy feud at this year's Annual Retiree Luncheon, his time was naturally limited. For those of you who may be interested in reading the complete story of this old legend you can do so by clicking on to www.real-mccoys.com. You non-computer users may also obtain a copy of the story by calling me at 304-453-1474.

RETIREE ACTIVITIES: Speaking of the retiree luncheon. Those of you who were in attendance recall that you were asked to complete a questionnaire form on the types of future "retiree activities" you would be interested in having COEHDRA arrange. Well the tally is in and the majority consensus has resulted in your interest for a retirees luncheon during this year's Christmas period. Acting promptly upon your

wishes, tentative plans are now being made by COEHDRA to hold such an event Dec. 3 at a site yet to be determined. Specific details will be forthcoming. Hope to see all of you there.

CONDOLENCES: I've just learned that two of our former Corps employees died during the month of June: Frank Fritz of the Operations Division and Jerry Baumgardner of the Planning Division. Our condolences go out to Frank and Jerry's families.

OUT AND ABOUT: I still can't believe that I'm not hearing some of the happenings you have encountered since retirement that may be quite interesting to other retirees that you would like to share. You know, children's graduations, weddings, new births, vacations, etc. and then those serious notes on illness, hospital confinements, etc. COEHDRA has been graciously given a "news corner" in the Castle Comments in which to share such retiree news each month and all it takes is for you to drop me a line at 1103 Walnut Street, Kenova, W.Va. 25530 no later than the last Monday of each month.

THE PLAQUE: In the absence of hearing from you, it may become necessary on occasions for me to use "filler" pieces such as the following: One Sunday morning, the preacher noticed little Billy was staring up at the plaque that hung in the foyer of the church. It was covered with names and small American flags were mounted on either side of it. The seven-year old had been staring at the plaque for some time, so the preacher walked up, stood beside the little boy and said quietly, "Good morning Billy." "Good Morning, Preacher," replied the young man, still focusing on the plaque, "Preacher, what is this?" "Well, son it's a memorial to all the young men and women who died while in the service." Soberly, they stood together, staring at the plaque. Little Billy's voice was barely audible when he asked, "Which service...the 9:45 or the 11:00."

You're in the Army now

At the annual Electronic Entertainment Expo in Los Angeles, participants were treated to a new video game. The game is called "America's Army," but the difference is that it's free starting in July or August.

The PC game will be available at Army recruiting places, through video magazines and online at www.americasarmy.com.

"There are a lot of games out there that deal with the military, but we can do it right because we are the Army," says Lt. Col. Casey Wardynski, who teaches at West Point. He also helped to develop the game.

The game starts out in virtual boot camp and puts the player through the traditional tests of endurance. You have to graduate before being able to select the school of expertise you wish to join, and then you get to actually go on mission.

Wardynski hopes the game proves fun while enticing new recruits.

—Adapted from the Chicago Sun-Times



Huntington District People

Congratulations

- To Shea Berry, daughter of Shawn Berry and granddaughter of former Chief of Real Estate Don Thompson, for helping her basketball team, the West Virginia Thunder to take fifth place in the 12-year-old AAU National Championships. The tournament was held in Amarillo, Texas June 28 through July 6. The West Virginia Thunder is a member of the Amateur Athletic Union (AAU). Berry played for the Thunder basketball team for the past three years. The Thunder won the state championship each of those three years. In the 2000 National Championships, the Thunder came in ninth place and thirteenth place last year in New Orleans. Berry is from Proctorville, Ohio.

New Arrival

- Congratulations to David Karickhoff on the birth of his grandson David Albert Chrumka July 21. The baby weighed 8 pounds and 1 ounce.

- Congratulations to Natalie and Brenden McKinley on the birth of their son, Colin Andrew, born May 16 weighing 8 pounds and 14 ounces and measuring 21 inches.



- Congratulations to Sean Carter and his wife Lisa on their birth of their baby girl Amelia Rose July 10. She weighed 7 pounds and 15 ounces.

House restoration

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areas to be surveyed using a fluxgate gradiometer and earth conductivity meter to detect buried surfaces. "We took out two different types of units. One to detect the presence of metals and firing; the other detects stone and bricks."

The findings are expected late this month, which will give the Corps and its customers a start in determining how to restore the home.

Project Manager Wayne Budrus said the Corps is spending \$150,000 for the archeological work and will develop another contract this fall to analyze the findings. The Corps is working closely with the West Virginia Division of Culture and History, the Greenbottom Society,

the NAACP (since there were slaves on the plantation) and the West Virginia Department of Natural Resources on the proposed restoration.

The Jenkins house is surrounded by mitigated Greenbottom swampland from the Robert C. Byrd Locks and Dam project. The Corps acquired the property in 1988. Since then it has been leased out to the DNR and the Division of Cultural and History.

Once the restoration is complete, it will be turned over to the Division of Culture and History for operations and maintenance, Budrus said.



Photo by Wayne Budrus

Contract employee William Updike discusses parts of the outdoor kitchen to (from left) Stan Bumgardner, assistant director of state museum, Nancy Herholdt, commissioner of Division of Culture and History and Stuart McGehee, Chairman of History Department at West Virginia State College during an onsite meeting July 23.

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